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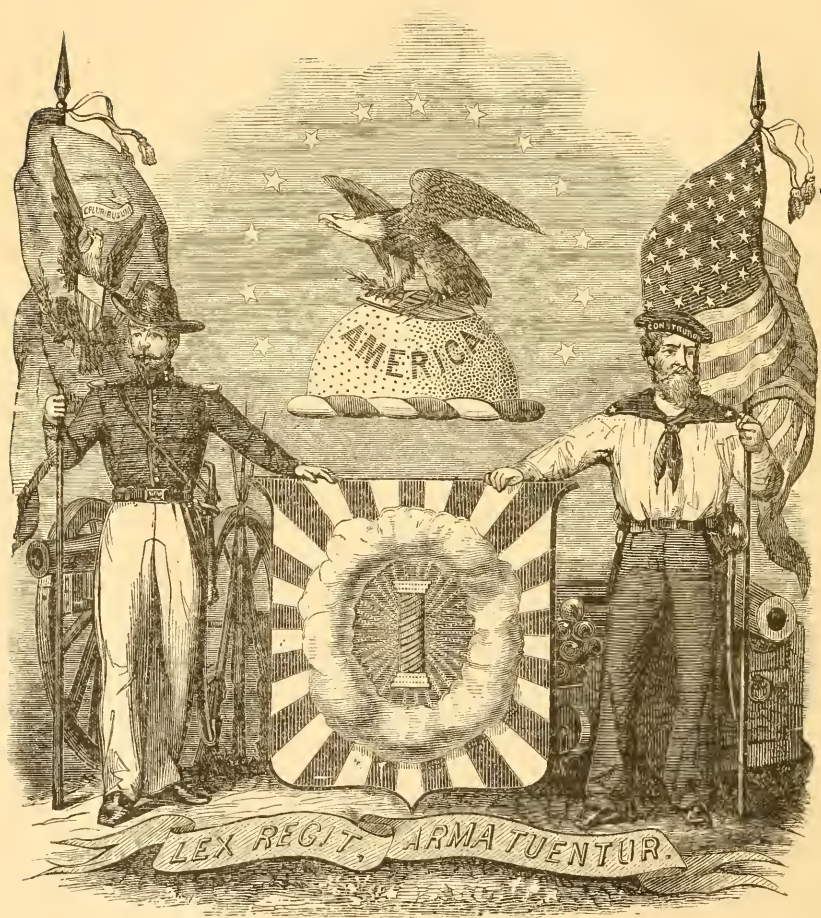
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.





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THE
MILITARY ORDER
OF THE
LOYAL LEGION
OF THE
UNITED STATES

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PHILADELPHIA
1885



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1865

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1865, for
 THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES,
 By Sam. B. Wylie Mitchell, M. D., Acting Recorder-in-Chief of said Order,
*In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the United States,
 for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.*

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1885, by
 JOHN P. NICHOLSON,
*Acting Recorder-in-Chief of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion
 of the United States,
 in the Office of the Librarian of Congress.*

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CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

WE, Officers and Honorably Discharged Officers of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps of the United States, whose names are hereunto annexed, having aided in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the National Government at a critical period of its history, and holding in remembrance the sacrifices in common made, and the triumphs together shared in discharge of this sacred duty, unite to ordain and establish a permanent association for the purposes and objects hereinafter set forth, and to this end pledge our honor, as officers and gentlemen, to be governed by the following Constitution and By-Laws.

ARTICLE I.

TITLE.

This institution shall be known by the name, style and title of THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

ARTICLE II.

PRINCIPLES.

This Order acknowledges as its fundamental principles—

1st. A firm belief and trust in Almighty God ; extolling Him under whose beneficent guidance the sovereignty and integrity of the Union have been maintained, the honor of the Flag vindicated, and the blessing of civil liberty secured, established and enlarged.

2d. True allegiance to the United States of America, based upon paramount respect for and fidelity to the National Constitution and Laws, and manifested by discountenancing whatever may tend to weaken loyalty, to incite to insurrection, treason or rebellion, or to impair in any manner the efficiency and permanency of our free institutions.

ARTICLE III.

OBJECTS.

The objects of this Order shall be, to cherish the memories and associations of the war waged in defence of the unity and indivisibility of the Republic ; to strengthen the ties of fraternal fellowship and sympathy formed by companionship-in-arms ; to advance the best interests of the soldiers and sailors of the United States, especially of those associated as mem-

bers of this Order, and to extend all possible relief to their widows and children ; to foster the cultivation of military and naval science ; to enforce unqualified allegiance to the General Government ; to protect the rights and liberties of American citizenship, and to maintain National Honor, Union and Independence.

ARTICLE IV.

ORGANIZATION.

The several constituted bodies of this Order shall be designated as Commanderies, and shall consist of—

1st. State Commanderies, to be known as “The Commandery of the State of _____.”

The several Commanderies may become incorporated under the laws of their respective States and under the provisions of this Constitution.

2d. A National Commandery, to be known as “The Commandery-in-Chief.”

ARTICLE V.

MEMBERS.

The Members, or Companions, of this Order shall be of three classes :—

First Class : 1st. Commissioned Officers and Honorably Discharged Commissioned Officers of the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps, Regular or Volunteer, including officers of assimilated or corresponding rank by appointment of the Secretary

of War or Navy, who were actually engaged in the suppression of the Rebellion prior to the fifteenth day of April, 1865, whether so engaged as commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, warrant officers or enlisted men, and who shall have been duly elected as hereinafter provided.

2d. The eldest direct male lineal descendants, according to the rules of primogeniture, of deceased Original Companions of the First Class, and of officers dying prior to the thirty-first day of December, 1885, who at the time of death possessed the qualifications for membership in the Order; and if there are no such descendants, then the male heirs of such deceased Companions or officers in the collateral branches of their families in the order of genealogical succession according to the rules of primogeniture, disregarding intervening female lives.

Provided, however, 1st. That the inheritance shall in every case of succession be traced anew from the Original Founder of the membership in the Order, or deceased officer as aforesaid, and not otherwise, and shall be limited in cases of collateral succession to the brothers, and descendants of brothers and sisters, of such Original Companion or deceased officer, and, in cases of representation through females, the elder branches shall be preferred to the younger; but any Original Companion having no direct lineal descendant may by writing filed with the Recorder

of the Commandery in which he may be enrolled, or by his last will and testament, or instrument in the nature thereof, nominate for life his successor from among his male heirs within the said limits in the collateral branches of his family :

2d. That any person eligible for membership by inheritance, or by renunciation of another, may, by writing filed with the Recorder of the Commandery in which the membership may be enrolled, waive and renounce his right to such eligibility in favor of the next-entitled person :

3d. That in case one already a Companion of the Order is next in the line of inheritance from a deceased Original Companion or officer as aforesaid, the eligibility of membership in right of such deceased Companion or officer shall devolve upon the person next entitled other than such living Companion or his direct lineal descendants :

4th. That in cases of inheritance by persons under the age of twenty-one years their right of succession to eligibility of membership, or of renunciation of such eligibility, shall be postponed until they attain majority.

5th. That the resignation, expulsion or forfeiture of membership of a Companion who has obtained such membership by inheritance shall only work as a waiver of his rights in favor of the next person in the line of

inheritance from the Original Companion or deceased officer as aforesaid :

6th. That no right of inheritance shall be derived from any Original Companion who has been expelled from the Order, but, in case an Original Companion shall have resigned or been dropped from the roll for non-payment of dues, his successor may be allowed by vote of a majority of the members of the Commandery present at any stated meeting to revive the said right :

7th. That such descendants or collateral heirs shall have been duly elected as hereinafter provided.

Second Class: The eldest sons of living Original Companions of the First Class who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years and been duly elected as hereinafter provided. Upon the death of the Companion of the First Class through whom eligibility of membership is derived, a Companion of the Second Class shall become a Companion of the First Class.

Provided, however: That such Companions of the Second Class shall not have the right of voting at meetings or of balloting for officers or new members.

Third Class: Gentlemen in civil life who, during the Rebellion, were specially distinguished for conspicuous and consistent loyalty to the National Government, and who were active and eminent in maintaining the supremacy of the same, and who shall have been duly elected

as hereinafter provided; but the number of Companions of the Third Class shall not exceed the ratio of one to thirty-three of those of the First Class.

ARTICLE VI.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1. — Every application for membership shall be made in writing, signed by the applicant, who shall be recommended in writing by three Companions of the First Class of the Commandery to which he shall apply, who shall vouch for the candidate's worthiness. The application shall be accompanied by the admission fee and dues for the current year, and shall be referred by the Commander to a committee of investigation, consisting of three Companions of the Order, other than the recommending Companions, which committee shall report in writing at the next stated meeting of the Commandery upon the worthiness and eligibility of the applicant. After the reading of the report, the Commander shall formally request any Companion of the Order who has any objection to the report, or reasons against the election of the candidate, to then state the same if he so desires. Upon the adoption of the report, every Companion of the Order present shall, unless excused by a vote of the Commandery, deposit one ballot for or against the candidate. If he be a candidate for the First or Second Class, and not more than four black-balls or adverse

ballots be deposited against him, he shall be declared duly elected; but if five or more black-balls or adverse ballots be deposited against him, he shall be rejected and so declared.' If he be a candidate for the Third Class, and one black-ball or adverse ballot be deposited against him, he shall be rejected and so declared.

The admission fee and dues accompanying the application shall be refunded in case of non-election.

SEC. 2.—An application for membership may be withdrawn before report thereon, or after report and before ballot if the report be favorable, but if the report be unfavorable, the candidate must be balloted for.

SEC. 3.—A Companion-elect, before being admitted to the privileges of membership, shall subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order; pay an admission fee of at least twenty-five dollars, which shall entitle him during membership to the Insignia, and if an Original Member of the First or Third Class to the Diploma, and shall either make the requisite declaration at a meeting of the Commandery, or file the same in writing. But if he shall neglect or refuse to comply with these conditions for the period of six months, unless prevented by sickness or other unavoidable occurrence, his election may be declared null and void.

SEC. 4.—If a candidate for membership be rejected, he shall be forever after ineligible for proposal in any

other Commandery of the Order, and not eligible in that in which he was rejected until a period of one year shall have elapsed from the date of his rejection, after which, in the event of the rejected candidate applying for membership, he shall comply in all particulars with the forms hereinbefore prescribed, and, to be elected, must, when balloted for, be approved unanimously.

SEC. 5.—When the fact of the unworthiness or ineligibility of any candidate for membership in the Order shall be certified to by a committee of investigation it shall be recorded, and a copy of such record forwarded to every Commandery.

ARTICLE VII.

TRANSFER AND TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1.—A member may resign, on application made as hereinafter directed, at any stated meeting with the consent of two-thirds of the members present.

In case of the proposed resignation of a member, before the same shall be accepted, he shall return to the Commandery of which he is a member the Diploma and Insignia of the Order.

SEC. 2.—Resignations shall be made in writing, accompanied by a certificate from the Recorder that all dues to the Order have been satisfied, but no mem-

ber shall be permitted to resign while charges are pending against him.

SEC. 3.—Membership shall be forfeited only for a violation of any of the obligations taken on entering the Order, or for other conduct unbecoming a gentleman and inconsistent with that of a man of honor. In such cases the Diploma and Insignia in the possession of the person whose membership has been so terminated shall be returned to the Commandery of which he was a member.

SEC. 4.—A commissioned officer of the Regular Army, Navy or Marine Corps, who is a member of the Order, upon being ordered to a station where there is a Commandery with which he may desire to affiliate, shall be entitled to a transfer thereto, upon written application to his Commandery accompanied by a certificate from the Recorder that his dues have been satisfied. A Companion in civil life, changing his residence to a place within the jurisdiction of any other Commandery, may in like manner receive a transfer.

SEC. 5.—The right to hold the Insignia and Diploma of an Original Member shall, after his decease, always be in his relative who is entitled to membership as his successor—in his family if there is no such relative, and in the Commandery through which they were issued, in the case of failure of such relatives and family.

ARTICLE VIII.

IMPEACHMENT OF MEMBERS.

SECTION 1.—If the conduct or character of any Companion of this Order shall be impeached, the accusing member shall prefer his charges in writing to the Board of Officers, who shall notify the accused of the same; and if, after due investigation, the Board of Officers consider the charge to be sustained, they shall report the case, with their decision, to the Commandery, notifying the accused of the time when the report is to be made. If the accused member shall fail to come forward and exculpate himself, he may be expelled by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Commandery present. But no vote for the reprimand, suspension or expulsion of a Companion shall be taken except at a stated meeting.

SEC. 2.—The dismissal, cashiering or dishonorable discharge from the military or naval service of the United States, or the conviction in a court of justice of an infamous offence, of any Companion of this Order, shall constitute a sufficient ground for his expulsion without further investigation.

SEC. 3.—A member who has been expelled may be reinstated only by a unanimous vote of the members of the Commandery at a stated meeting after he shall have petitioned in writing for reinstatement.

ARTICLE IX.

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE.

The Diploma of Membership and the Insignia of the Order may be conferred upon any gentleman who served during the War of the Rebellion prior to the fifteenth day of April, 1865, on staff duty without commission, but who is otherwise eligible to membership, upon nomination and recommendation of the Commandery-in-Chief, by a vote of the Congress of the Order. The vote shall be by ballot, and three black-balls or adverse ballots shall exclude from such membership.

A Member-at-Large shall be recognized as a Companion of the First Class upon affiliating with a State Commandery and paying his admission fee.

ARTICLE X.

DIPLOMA OF MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1.—Every Diploma of Membership shall be signed by the Commander-in-Chief, and shall have the seal of the Order affixed thereto, and be attested by the Recorder-in-Chief.

SEC. 2.—The form of the Diploma shall be as follows:

No.

In the name and by the Authority of

[COAT OF ARMS.]

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE
UNITED STATES.

THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF

To all to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING :

KNOW YE, THAT _____

Having been specially distinguished for faithful services in maintaining the honor, integrity and supremacy of the Government of the United States of America, was received as a COMPANION OF THE _____ CLASS OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES, on the _____ day of _____, Anno Domini _____ thousand _____ hundred and _____, through the Commandery of the State of _____

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF the names of the proper Officers and the Seal of the Order are hereunto affixed.

GIVEN at Philadelphia, this _____ day of _____, in the year of our Lord _____ thousand _____ hundred and _____, and of the Independence of the United States of America the _____, and of the Order the _____.



Attest : —

_____,
Commander-in-Chief.

_____,
Recorder-in-Chief.

ARTICLE XI.

DEATH OF MEMBERS.

Upon notice of the death of any Companion of the Order, the Commandery may be convened for the purpose of attending the funeral ceremonies.

If agreeable to the family of the deceased, the coffin shall be draped with the United States flag, and the pall supported by Companions of the Order.

ARTICLE XII.

OFFICERS.

SECTION I.—The Officers of the several State Commanderies shall be a Commander, a Senior Vice-Commander, a Junior Vice-Commander, a Recorder, a Registrar, a Treasurer, a Chancellor, a Chaplain, and a Council consisting of five Companions, which officers shall constitute the Board of Officers. They shall be elected annually by ballot by a majority of the votes cast. Should no candidate receive a majority of the votes cast at the first ballot, then the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and so on at each successive ballot. The Companions so elected shall enter upon office at the next stated meeting after their election, and shall hold the same until their successors shall have been duly elected and invested.

SEC. 2.—The Officers of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be a Commander-in-Chief, a Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, a Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief, a Recorder-in-Chief, a Registrar-in-Chief, a Treasurer-in-Chief, a Chancellor-in-Chief, a Chaplain-in-Chief, and a Council-in-Chief, consisting of five Companions, which officers shall constitute the Board of Officers. They shall be elected every four years in the manner prescribed for the election of officers of the State Commanderies, and shall enter upon office at once, and hold the same until their successors shall have been duly elected and invested.

ARTICLE XIII.

DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

SECTION 1.—It shall be the duty of the Commander to preside at all meetings of the Commandery and of the Board of Officers; to enforce a strict observance of the Constitution and By-Laws; to appoint all officers and committees not otherwise provided for; to sign all orders drawn upon the Treasurer for sums necessary to defray expenses, and for other appropriations made and passed at a stated meeting of the Commandery; and to perform such other duties as custom and parliamentary usage or his charge may require of him.

SEC. 2.—The Vice-Commanders shall, when called upon, assist the Commander in the performance of his duties. The Senior Vice-Commander, in the event of the death, resignation or absence of the Commander, shall be his plenary representative. In the event of the death, resignation or absence of the Senior Vice-Commander, the Junior Vice-Commander shall succeed to all his powers and duties.

SEC. 3.—It shall be the duty of the Recorder to keep in books provided for the purpose,—

1st. The Constitution and By-Laws, rules and regulations of the Order, to be signed by every Companion on his becoming a member thereof.

2d. A record of the proceedings of the Commandery and of the Board of Officers.

3d. A letter-book of copies of all official letters.

4th. A ledger, to contain the accounts of the Commandery with its members.

5th. A receipt-book, in which to take the Treasurer's receipts.

6th. A book in which shall be recorded the names and rank in the service of all that may have been declared ineligible for membership in the Order, and also of those members who may have been expelled from any Commandery, together with the reasons therefor.

It shall be his duty to keep these books in readiness at all times for inspection by the Council ; to care for and arrange the archives of the Commandery ; to keep all accounts between the Commandery and its members ; to receive in trust all moneys of the Commandery and pay the same without delay to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same. He shall attest all orders drawn upon the Treasurer for money ordered to be paid at a stated meeting, and none others except those hereinafter specially provided for. He shall give due notice of all meetings of the Commandery, and shall furnish in the said notice the name, rank and command in the service, and address of each candidate for membership, together with the names of his recommenders, and of the committee of investigation ; and on the first of January shall forward to each Companion a statement of his account with the Commandery. He shall conduct the correspondence of the Commandery, and shall notify the Commandery-in-Chief and each State Commandery, from time to time as they may occur, of every application or the withdrawal of any application for membership, of admissions, rejections, suspensions, expulsions, resignations, restorations and deaths. He shall, at the last stated meeting in his term of office, make out for the Commandery a full report of all moneys received during his term, and also the arrearages of every member, and shall transfer to his successor in office, within two

weeks after the expiration of his term, all books, papers, or other property in his possession belonging to his office. He shall notify the family of a deceased Companion of the First Class, of the provisions relating to succession to eligibility of membership; and shall perform such other duties as the Commandery or his office may require of him. He shall have the care and custody of the Seal of the Order.

SEC. 4.—The Registrar shall procure and keep a register of the members of the Commandery, ruled to embrace every material fact relating to or growing out of their membership. In the absence or disability of the Recorder he shall officiate in his stead.

SEC. 5.—The Treasurer shall receive from the Recorder all moneys belonging to the Commandery, giving receipts for the same. He shall pay all orders signed by the Commander and attested by the Recorder, and none others, and retain these orders as his vouchers in a book provided for the purpose. He shall keep fair and regular accounts of his receipts and expenditures, making a quarterly statement thereof, and shall perform such other duties as the Commandery or his office may require of him. He shall pay over and deliver to his successor in office, on the investiture of his successor, all moneys, vouchers, books and papers belonging to the Commandery, in his hands at the close of his term of office. For the

faithful performance of his duty he shall give such security as the Commandery may direct.

SEC. 6.—The Chancellor shall have the care and custody of the insignia, ribbon and rosettes. He shall issue, on proper requisitions, the Diploma of Membership and the Insignia of the Order, and shall keep in a book provided for the purpose a full and complete record of the same. In no case shall he issue a duplicate Diploma or Insignia except by a vote of the Commandery of which he is a member, based upon the statement, upon honor, by the applicant that the original has been either lost or destroyed: *Provided*, That a Companion receiving such duplicate shall pay the actual cost of the same. In the absence or disability of the Treasurer, he shall officiate in his stead.

SEC. 7.—It shall be the duty of the Chaplain to open the meetings of the Commandery in the manner prescribed, and to perform such other duties as general custom may require of him.

SEC. 8.—The five members elected as the Council shall constitute a standing committee on accounts, and shall audit and adjust the Commandery's books quarterly or oftener if required to do so, rendering reports of the same.

SEC. 9.—The Board of Officers shall exercise a gen-

eral inspection and control over all property belonging to the Commandery.

In dissensions between Companions, it shall be the duty of the Board of Officers to act as a court of honor for the just and amicable settlement of the same, but where charges are preferred against a Companion, it shall be constituted a court of inquiry for the Commandery, and shall proceed to act according to the laws and usages governing similar courts in the Army and Navy. It shall have power to fill vacancies in any of the offices of the Commandery, except in cases provided for in Article XIII, Sec. 2, until the time of the next annual election.

ARTICLE XIV.

REMOVAL OF OFFICERS.

Any officer of the Order who shall neglect or improperly perform the duties incumbent upon him, may be removed at any stated meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Commandery present.

ARTICLE XV.

MEETINGS.

SECTION I.—The stated meetings of the several State Commanderies shall be held monthly, unless any Commandery, by a two-thirds vote, shall other-

wise direct: *Provided however*, That every Commandery shall hold a meeting in the month of May of each year for the election of officers.

SEC. 2.—Special meetings may be convened at the pleasure of the Commander, or upon the written request of twenty-five members of the Commandery upon seven days' notice.

SEC. 3.—Eight members of the Commandery* shall constitute a quorum at any meeting at which business is to be transacted.

ARTICLE XVI.

SECRECY.

SECTION 1.—None but Companions shall be present at business meetings of the Order.

SEC. 2.—Any member who shall disclose the name of a Companion who has been instrumental in causing the rejection of any candidate for membership, or give information that may lead to such disclosure, shall be expelled from the Order, and the Commander shall cause the provisions of this law to be read immediately after the rejection of such application.

ARTICLE XVII.

FUNDS.

SECTION 1.—The fiscal year of the Order shall begin on the first day of January.

SEC. 2.—Funds for defraying the current expenses of the Order, and for the relief of the unfortunate, shall be raised by an annual assessment of at least five dollars upon each Companion, which shall be paid in advance; but any Companion who shall pay, at one time, one hundred and fifty dollars over and above his admission fee, shall be exempt from the payment of all further dues.

SEC. 3.—All sums paid for the commutation of annual assessments shall be transferred immediately to the Treasurer for investment in United States or other approved securities under the direction of the Board of Officers.

SEC. 4.—Should a Companion who has commuted by payment as hereinbefore provided be transferred to another Commandery, the proportion of the commutation fee, according to the Carlisle Tables, shall be paid at the time of transfer to the Commandery receiving such Companion.

ARTICLE XVIII.

ARREARAGES.

SECTION I.—Any Companion who may be in arrears at the time of holding the annual election for officers shall be prohibited from voting, and ineligible to any office until such dues shall have been paid or remitted.

SEC. 2.—Any Companion who may be one year or more in arrears at the first stated meeting in April, shall be specially notified of the fact; and if the same shall not be paid within a reasonable time thereafter, the Commandery may, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, suspend the Companion until such arrearages shall be paid or duly remitted.

SEC. 3.—If the Companion shall neglect or refuse to pay such arrears, he may be dropped from the roll by vote of a majority of the members of the Commandery present, unless it shall appear that the delinquency has occurred through unavoidable disability, in which case the Commandery may remit the whole or any portion thereof. Companions so dropped from the roll may, however, be reinstated by vote of a majority of the members of the Commandery present, upon payment of such arrears.

ARTICLE XIX.

RELIEF.

SECTION 1.—Every Companion who shall have been a member of this Order for one year and conformed to its laws, shall, in case of misfortune and distress, be entitled to such relief as may be deemed expedient.

SEC. 2.—The widow and the children of a deceased Companion shall be entitled to such relief as the Companion, if living, would have enjoyed.

ARTICLE XX.

RELIEF COMMITTEE.

Immediately after the installation of the officers-elect, the Board of Officers shall, with the approval of the Commandery, appoint eight Companions, who shall constitute a relief committee for the ensuing year, to which committee all applications for relief shall be referred. The committee shall be empowered to order temporary assistance only in cases which will admit of no delay, and shall immediately report the fact to the Board of Officers. The expenses for such assistance shall be paid by an order on the Treasurer, approved by the Board of Officers; but the said committee shall draw no other orders upon the Treasurer, except by resolution of the Commandery.

ARTICLE XXI.

STATE COMMANDERIES.

SECTION 1.—Authority to organize a State Commandery may be granted by the Commandery-in-Chief, upon the vote of two-thirds of the members present at a stated meeting: *Provided*, That written application for such organization shall have been made by at least thirteen Companions of the First Class.

SEC. 2.—The form of Charter shall be as follows :

In the Name and by the Authority of

[COAT OF ARMS.]

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE
UNITED STATES.

THE COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF

To all and singular to whom these Presents shall come,

GREETING :

KNOW YE, that our worthy Companions, _____,
_____, _____, _____,
_____, _____, _____,
are hereby authorized and empowered to institute,
organize and establish a Commandery in _____,
to be known as THE COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF
_____, OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL
LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

WITNESS the name of the Commander-in-Chief, and
the Seal of the Order, attested by the Recorder-in-
Chief, at Philadelphia, this _____ day of _____ in the
year of our Lord _____ thousand _____ hundred and
_____, and of the Independence of the United States
of America the _____, and of the Order the _____,

_____,
Commander-in-Chief.

Attest : —

_____,
Recorder-in-Chief.



SEC. 3.—Upon issuing the Charter to any Commandery, the Commander-in-Chief shall direct at what time and place the same shall be organized. The officers then chosen shall enter on their duties at once, and hold their offices until the meeting in the month of May next following.

SEC. 4.—Each Commandery shall have power to adopt whatever rules and regulations may be deemed necessary for its own special government: *Provided*, That the same do not in any way conflict with or impair any part or portion of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Order.

SEC. 5.—Each Commandery shall make a full report of its condition, with a general history of its proceedings, to the Commander-in-Chief annually in May.

ARTICLE XXII.

COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF.

SECTION 1.—The Commandery-in-Chief shall consist of the Commanders, ex-Commanders, Vice-Commanders, ex-Vice-Commanders, Recorders and ex-Recorders of the several Commanderies.

SEC. 2.—The duties of the officers of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be as prescribed in Article XIII of the Constitution for State Commanderies.

SEC. 3.—All legislative power, except as provided

in this section and elsewhere reserved to the State Commanderies, shall be vested in the Congress of the Order, and the chief executive and supreme judicial power in the Commandery-in-Chief: *Provided*, That when a contingency shall arise which shall in all honor and fair dealing seem to the Commandery-in-Chief to demand instant and imperative action, it may, with the approval of a majority of the several State Commanderies, adopt measures to meet the contingency, which shall be binding until the next meeting of the Congress.

SEC. 4.—The Commandery-in-Chief shall, in the name and by the authority of the Order, issue all diplomas of membership and charters for the institution of new Commanderies. The Chancellor-in-Chief shall have the care and custody of the diploma-plate, dies, insignia and ribbon, and shall deliver to Chancellors of State Commanderies the diplomas of membership and the insignia required for their respective members.

SEC. 5.—Should any State Commandery cease to hold regular meetings as provided by this Constitution for a period of one year, the Charter of the same may be revoked by the Commandery-in-Chief, and the Companions thereof in good standing shall be transferred to such Commanderies as they may elect.

SEC. 6.—In order that the several Commanderies

shall be brought into direct communication with each other, it shall be the duty of the Commandery-in-Chief to have the Commanderies notified of each new organization that may have been effected; and on the receipt of such official information, they shall communicate, with the least possible delay, with the new Commandery, tendering greetings on its entrance into the Order.

SEC. 7.—The head-quarters of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order shall be in the City of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, at which place it shall assemble at least once in every two years. The Council-in-Chief shall meet at least annually. Its members may be represented by letter.

SEC. 8.—The actual and necessary expenses of the Commandery-in-Chief shall be provided for by a *pro rata* assessment upon each State Commandery, according to the number of the members in such Commandery.

ARTICLE XXIII.

CONGRESS OF THE ORDER.

SECTION 1.—A Congress of the Order, to be composed of the Commander-in-Chief, Recorder-in-Chief, and three representatives from each and every Commandery, shall assemble at least once in every four years, on the Wednesday next following the ninth day

of April, in such place as shall have been designated by the preceding Congress, and shall act on whatever business may be laid before it.

SEC. 2.—Commanderies unable to be represented by their own members shall select as substitutes the requisite number of members from other Commanderies to complete their delegations: *Provided*, That such substitutes shall not have been previously delegated by other Commanderies. Such substitutes shall, in all matters appertaining to the Congress, enjoy the rights and privileges of other representatives.

ARTICLE XXIV.

COAT OF ARMS OF THE ORDER.

The Coat of Arms of the Order shall be :

Arms.—Gironné, (symbolical of unity,) of thirty-four, gules and argent, (representing the number of States forming the National Government at the commencement of the Rebellion;) a twisted pillar irradiated in pale, or, environed by an orl or clouds, proper. (*v.* Exodus xlii, 21, 22.)

Crest.—Upon a wreath, argent and gules, a hemisphere, or, charged with the legend AMERICA, in letters azure; thereon the National Eagle in the position of defence, proper; all within thirteen étoiles of five points archwise, of the first, on a field of the fourth.

Supporters.—Dexter: A soldier under arms, his dexter hand supporting a lance, therefrom flying the

Standard of the United States; Sinister: A sailor equipped for general quarters, his sinister hand supporting a pike, thereon hoisted the National Flag: all proper. The equipage of each as prescribed by the Regulations of 1861-1865 for the government of the Army and Navy.

Motto.—LEX REGIT ARMA TUENTUR, in letters argent, charged upon a scroll, purpure. (*v. Frontispiece.*)

ARTICLE XXV.

SEAL OF THE ORDER.

The Seal of the Order shall be one-and-three-tenths inches in diameter, and shall consist of the Crest, as hereinbefore blazoned, the letters MDCCCLXV in base; the whole encircled by a band one-eighth of an inch wide, thereon the legend, SEAL OF THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES.

ARTICLE XXVI.

INSIGNIA OF THE ORDER.

SECTION 1.—The Insignia of the Order shall consist of the Badge pendent by a link and a ring of gold from the Ribbon.

SEC. 2.—The Badge of the Order shall be as follows:

Obverse.—A cross of eight points, gold, cantoned with rays of gold, forming a star—its long diameter one-and-three-tenths inches, its short diameter eight-tenths of an inch. The cross enameled, azure, charged with a smaller cross of like proportions, enameled white and edged with gold. In the centre thereof, within a circle four-tenths of an inch in diameter, enameled gules, the National Eagle displayed gold. On the circle, gold, one-tenth of an inch wide, in relief, the motto, LEX REGIT ARMA TUENTUR. (*v.* page 38.)

Reverse.—The star as above described. In the centre thereof, within a circle four-tenths of an inch in diameter, enameled gules, two sabres in saltire, their points in base; surmounted by a fasces palewise, ensigned with the Phrygian Cap; environed in chief with an arch of thirteen stars; in base, a wreath of laurel: all of gold. On the circle, gold, one-tenth of an inch wide, in relief, the legend—M. O., LOYAL LEGION, U. S.—MDCCCLXV. (*v.* page 39.)

SEC. 3.—The reverse of the link of each Badge shall bear an engraved number corresponding to that of the registered number of the Companion to whom issued, and, when such badge shall have been worn by an Original Companion, the obverse of the link shall bear the number of the Companion entitled to it in succession.

SEC. 4.—The Ribbon of the Order shall be of watered silk, one-and-a-half inches wide.

For Companions of the First Class, a red ribbon eight-tenths of an inch wide, bordered with white and edged with blue, each three-and-one-half tenths of an inch wide. (*v.* page 38.)

For Companions of the Second and Third Classes, a blue ribbon eight-tenths of an inch wide, bordered with white and edged with red, each three-and-one-half-tenths of an inch wide. (*v.* page 39.)

ARTICLE XXVII.

UNIFORM OF THE ORDER.

SECTION 1.—On occasions of ceremony, the Companions of the Order may wear the uniform of their respective arm and grade whilst in the service, subject to such regulations as may hereafter be enjoined.

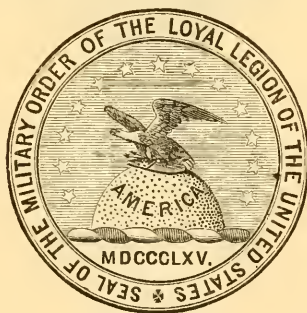
The Insignia of the Order shall be worn conspicuously, and only on the left breast, except that Officers of the Order, at meetings thereof, shall wear the Badge suspended by the Ribbon around the neck.

SEC. 2.—Companions of the Order when not on duty as such may wear the rosette of the prescribed pattern in the upper button-hole of the left lapel of the coat.

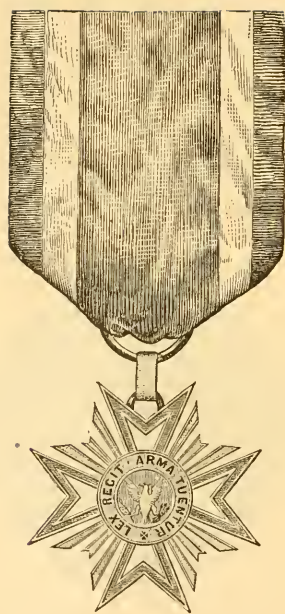
ARTICLE XXVIII.

AMENDMENTS.

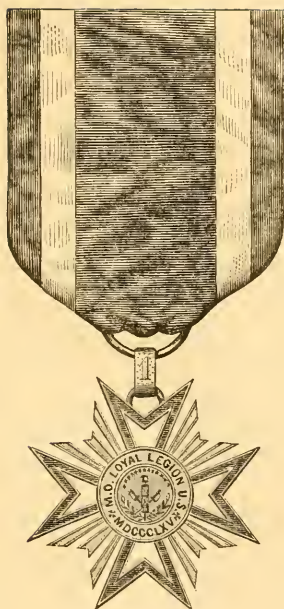
No alteration, addition or amendment shall be made to this Constitution or the By-Laws unless agreed to in the Congress of the Order by three-fourths of the whole number of Commanderies.



INSTITUTED APRIL 15, 1865.



OVERSE.



REVERSE.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

INSTALLATION OF MEMBERS.

THE Companion-elect being formally presented at a stated meeting of a Commandery, shall then and there make a declaration upon honor that he will maintain the Constitution of the Order, and conform to all its By-Laws, rules and regulations, and will use his best endeavors to promote its objects and advance its interests.

ARTICLE II.

INVESTITURE OF OFFICERS.

A Companion elected to any office in the Order, before being invested with the authority of the same, shall make a formal declaration upon honor that he will well and faithfully perform the duties of the office upon which he is about to enter, and comply with all the established laws and usages of the Order.

ARTICLE III.

FINES.

SECTION 1.—The fundamental principles of this Order being recognized as its only test of loyal citizenship, the discussion or introduction of sectarian or partisan topics within the precincts of a Commandery is prohibited, and this under a penalty of such fine, not exceeding fifty dollars, as may be imposed by order of the Board of Officers.

SEC. 2.—All other violations or neglects of duty may be fined at the option of the Commandery.

ARTICLE IV.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

At stated meetings the business shall be conducted in the following order:

1. At the time appointed the Commander shall take the chair and call the Commandery to order.
2. The Recorder may call the roll of members.
3. The Chaplain shall pronounce the opening prayer.
4. The minutes of the last stated and all subsequent meetings shall be read and disposed of.
5. Companions-elect shall be installed.
6. The stated business of the meeting, if any, shall be considered.
7. Unfinished business shall be taken up.

8. Reports of officers and committees shall be heard.

9. Written communications shall be presented.

10. Candidates for membership shall be balloted for.

11. Applications for membership shall be received.

12. Dues of Companions shall be called for payment.

13. New business may be introduced.

14. The Recorder shall register the names of the Companions present.

15. Adjournment.

ARTICLE V.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS.

SECTION 1.—The general parliamentary law shall govern the transactions of the Congress of the Order and the Commanderies.

SEC. 2.—All official orders, communications, records and proceedings, of whatever character, shall conform as nearly as possible to the general regulations, usages and customs of the military service of the United States.

ARTICLE VI.

THE ACTING COMMANDERY-IN-CHIEF OF THE ORDER.

Until the organization of the Commandery-in-Chief of the Order, the Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania shall act as the Commandery-in-Chief.

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✓
THE
MILITARY ORDER
OF THE
LOYAL LEGION
OF THE
UNITED STATES

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

PHILADELPHIA

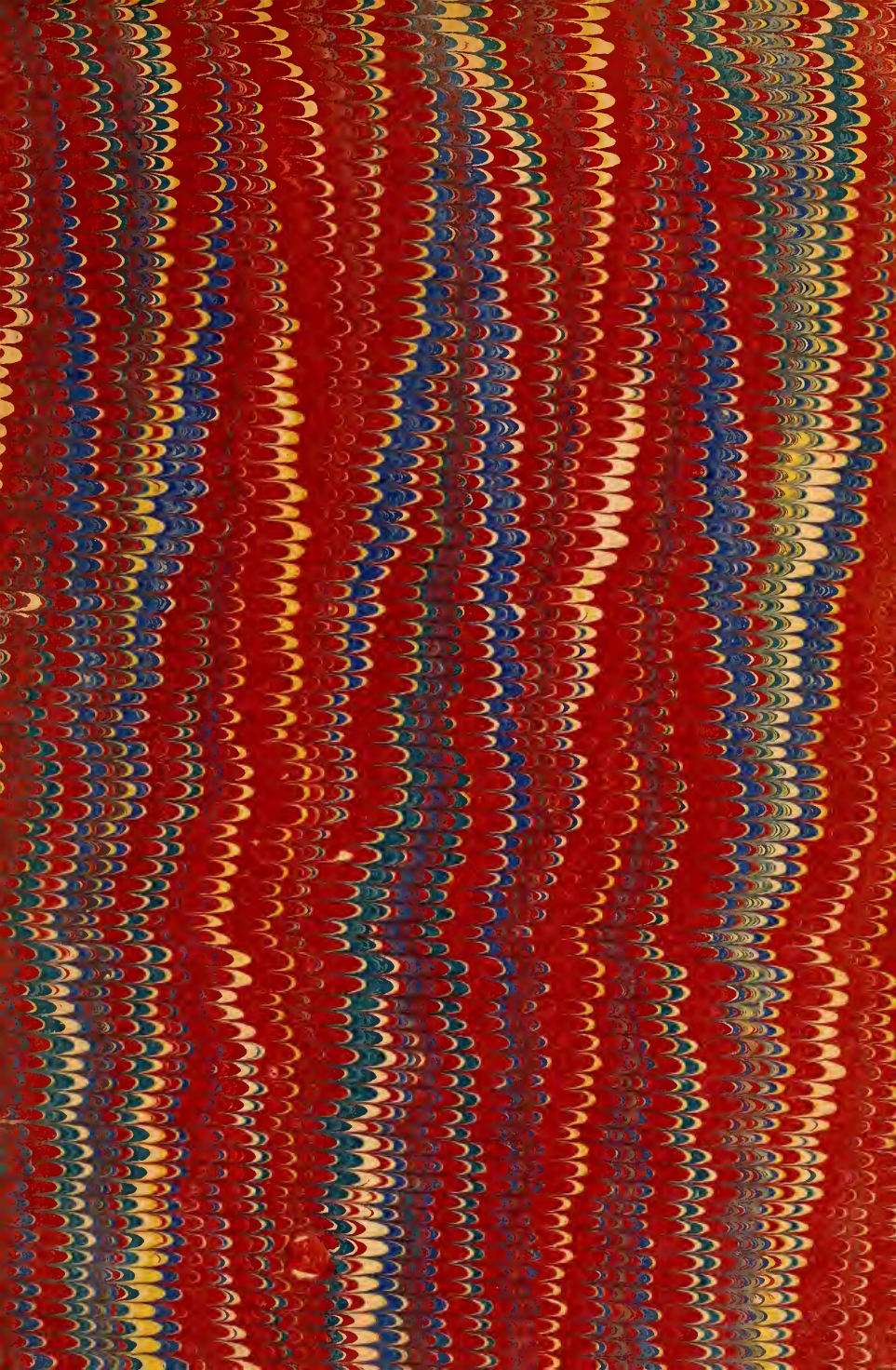
1885

ROLL OF COMMANDERIES.

1. *Commandery of the State of Pennsylvania. Headquarters, Philadelphia.*
(Acting Commandery-in-Chief.)
Instituted April 15th, 1865.
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel JOHN P. NICHOLSON, U. S. V.,
Recorder, 139 South Seventh Street, Philadelphia.
2. *Commandery of the State of New York. Headquarters, New York City.*
Instituted January 17th, 1866.
Brevet Brigadier-General CHARLES A. CARLETON, U. S. V.,
Recorder, 202 Broadway, New York City.
3. *Commandery of the State of Maine. Headquarters, Portland.*
Instituted April 25th, 1866.
First Lieutenant EDWARD M. RAND, late Maine Vols.,
Recorder, 93 Exchange Street, Portland.
4. *Commandery of the State of Massachusetts. Headquarters, Boston.*
Instituted March 4th, 1868.
Colonel ARNOLD A. RAND, late Massachusetts Vols.,
Recorder, 53 Tremont Street, Boston.
5. *Commandery of the State of California. Headquarters, San Francisco.*
Instituted April 12th, 1871.
Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. SMEDBURG, U. S. A.,
Recorder, 316 California Street, San Francisco.
6. *Commandery of the State of Wisconsin. Headquarters, Milwaukee.*
Instituted May 15th, 1874.
Brevet Captain JAMES R. SAVILLE, U. S. V.
Recorder, 287 Broadway, Milwaukee.
7. *Commandery of the State of Illinois. Headquarters, Chicago.*
Instituted May 8th, 1879.
Lieutenant-Colonel CHARLES W. DAVIS, late Illinois Vols.,
Recorder, 117 Wabash Avenue, Chicago.
8. *Commandery of the District of Columbia. Headquarters, Washington.*
Instituted February 1st, 1882.
Brevet Brigadier-General ALBERT ORDWAY, U. S. V.,
Recorder, 1429 New York Avenue, Washington.
9. *Commandery of the State of Ohio. Headquarters, Cincinnati.*
Instituted May 3d, 1882.
First Lieutenant ABSALOM H. MATTOX, late Ohio Vols.,
Recorder, P. O. Box 31, Cincinnati.
10. *Commandery of the State of Michigan. Headquarters, Detroit.*
Instituted February 4th, 1885.
Major SIDNEY L. FULLER,
Recorder, No. 1 Campau Building, Detroit.
11. *Commandery of the State of Minnesota. Headquarters, St. Paul.*
Instituted May 6th, 1885.
Brevet Major GEORGE Q. WHITE, U. S. A.,
Recorder, 88 Western Avenue, St. Paul.
12. *Commandery of the State of Oregon. Headquarters, Portland.*
Instituted May 6th, 1885.

11. 11.





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